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SOVIETS PENETRATE GERMAN POSITIONS IN PRUSSIAN SECTOR

Reich Troops Shorten Lines Around Stettin and Holding Back Red Forces

Domei

BERLIN, March 20.—The great battle for West and East Prussia increased even more in violence, the Fuehrer's Headquarters communique said today. Soviet forces penetrated the German positions in several sectors west of Gdynia and Zoppet, southwest of Praust, and south of Frisches Haff but the bulwarks at Danzig Bay and Koesigsberg Haff continued resistance against numerically far superior Red Army forces.

Frontline reports added that west of Gotenhafen and Zoppet as well as southwest of Praust, about 15 kilometers south of Danzig, the Soviets broke into the German positions at several places, but the Germans succeeded in maintaining a continuous frontline and prevented the Soviet from making further advances or breakthroughs. No fewer than 109 Soviet tanks were reported knocked out in these sectors.

Around Stettin the German troops shortened their lines and held back the Soviets from their new positions. Only reconnaissance activity was reported from both sides of Kuestrin while in upper Silesia the 1st Ukraine army was unable to expand their penetrations to the west or south.

In the Hungarian battlefields, meanwhile, it is reported that the Soviets are now employing 20 divisions and numerous tank formations to overthrow the German front there, but according to the German spokesman the Soviet high command had no far-flung objective in mind in this area. He claimed that the Soviet operations must be viewed in connection with the German attacks in that area. The Soviet attacks, he added, were aiming at weakening the German positions, but the Germans are continuing their attacks between Lake Balaton and the Danube and Sarviz Canal and have scored fresh successes.

Soviets Take Altdamm

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, March 20.—Marshal Stalin announced tonight that the 1st White Russian army has captured Altdamm, suburban bastion four miles east of Stettin, according to a Moscow report. Stalin also announced the capture of the Baltic stronghold of Brawnsberg, 30 miles southwest of Stettin.

Stalin's second order of the day announcing the capture of Braunsberg was addressed to Marshal Alexander Vassilewsky, commanding the 3rd army. This was first word that the Chief of General Staff of the Red Army had taken over the command vacated by the death in action of General Ivan Chernishhovsky.

Yanks Cross Nahe

Domei

BERLIN, March 20.—Frontline reports today said that the German troops are offering most stubborn resistance in pitched battles in the raging Saar-Nahe-Rhine triangle sector against strong assaults of the American 3rd army which yesterday advanced across the Nahe river and Glan valley. In the Remagen area, the enemy force tried hard to expand their bridgehead there with attacks to the north and east.

American air formations supported jabs by General Patton's troops in the areas of Kreuznach and Birkenfeld. The German garrison at Kreuznach tied down strong tank formations which spread out fan-wise after having crossed the Hunsrueck and Soop forests.

The brunt of the attacks, however, was shifted to further south to the Meisenheim-Lauterecken sector and the Glan valley. Their attempts to encircle the German troops there were frustrated, however. Strong American tank forces made thrusts to overcome the Nahe valley in the Idar-Oberstein sector while out of the Black Forest near Hermeskeil and Birkenfeld, strong units of the American 3rd army carried out attacks which carried them up to the Glan valley near Kusel and into upper Theel valley.

On the western side of the triangle, coordinating American attacks carried out simultaneously on both sides of Blies river in the direction of Blieskastel and Zweibrucken were stopped in the deeply-echeloned positions of the German West Wall. Particularly heavy battles were waged in the eastern part of this front between the Americans trying to cover the rear of the German troops fighting further to the west and the Germans who are carrying out operations to frustrate their plans of encirclement.

Fuehrer's Headquarters

March 20

Our motor torpedo boats o: the British coast sank seven enemy ships totaling 24,500 tons out of a strongly escorted enemy convoy and damaged a destroyer as well as two motor gunboats. During the previous night they set afire an enemy artillery speedboat while damaging another one.

Unhindered by the enemy our troops in the night from March 18 to 19 evacuated the Drave bridgehead southwest of Siklos. Not realizing the new situation Soviet battleplanes and artillery formations bombed and shelled the positions which in the meantime had been occupied by Soviet forces on the northern bank of the Drave.

Between Stuhlweissenburg and Felsoegalla the enemy with more than 20 infantry divisions and many panzer formations continued his offensive and expanded his break-in area at the exit of the Vertes Mountains toward the northeast but west of the Tartas, however, the enemy was checked in front of our barrage positions.

At the eastern fringe of the Bakonyi forest enemy attacks were stopped after slight territorial gains while in the Slovak Ore Mountains our formations frustrated a Soviet breakthrough attempt in the direction of Neusohl. As a consequence of our counterattacks in the area on both sides of Loebschuetz and Neisse formations of the Ukrainian 1st Army expanded their breaches toward the west and south. Our forces in this area held their fortified positions and in various sectors threw the enemy back toward the northeast.

The defenders of the Stettin bridgehead checked all enemy attacks supported by tanks and stormguns, in front of their shortened lines. The large-scale battle in West and East Prussia increased further in intensity yesterday. At the focal points west of Gotenhafen and Zoppot, southwest of Fraust as well as at the front south of the Frisches Haff the enemy succeeded in breaking into several sectors of our positions but our troops offered stiff resistance and destroyed 119 tanks and frustrated the planned enemy breakthrough toward the coast. West of Gotenhafen our naval units and naval flak effectively participated in the fighting.

Also in Courland our divsiions are engaged in hard fighting on both sides of Frauenburg against the Soviet offensive armies, who were checked in defense and counterattacks with high losses inflicted on him. The Soviets yesterday lost 84 planes over the Eastern Front.

On the middle Rhine the focal point of the defensive battle also yesterday was in the area north of Koenigswinter as well as along the motor highway east of Honnef. Despite strong pressure the enemy attacks were stopped in counterattacks and repulsed while in the southern sector enemy formations gained further ground. The military commandant of Koblenz together with the rest of the garrison defended themselves against the enemy attacking from all sides. Between the Rhine and the Palatinate heavy fighting is continuing with enemy panzer formations which had crossed the Nahe and the Glan Valley. At the southern border of the Palatinate where our troops moved into the West Wall fortifications all attacks of the American 7th Army were frustrated with high sanguinary losses to the enemy. In aerial combats against low flying Anglo-American planes our fighters shot down 15 enemy planes.

In central Italy and at the western Alps assault formations destroyed several enemy strong points and took prisoners. Croatian and German formations in eight days fighting cleared the fertile Moalawina district south of Bjelovar of enemy bands inflicting high losses on them. A large amount of war material and several supply depots were captured.

Anglo-American terror formations directed their attacks yesterday over wide areas specially in western and southern Germany and damage was caused particularly in Jenaand Fulda. British bombers, furthermore, attacked places in the Rhenish-Westphalian area while weaker enemy formations during the night attacked Berlin and the Steiermark.

GERMAN ARMS PLANT HIT

Rheinmetal-Dorsig Works in Berlin Set Ablaze in Air Raid

Domei

ZURICH, March 19.—The United States air force yesterday made a large-scale attack on Berlin with a big formation of 2,000 planes, but today the U.S. Strategic Air Force announced that the Sprawling Rheinmetal-Dorsig armament works, one of the largest in the world, was set ablaze in yesterday's record-breaking American attack on Berlin, according to a London report.

The entire air division of 400 Liberators (B-24) attacked the factory spread over 1,590 blocks on the northwestern side of Berlin. They first bombed the area and then sprayed the wreckage with fire bombs and when they left for home "buildings were burning" throughout the target area, the communique said.

The plant in which 25,000 persons are employed, makes a wide range of materials for the German army, navy and air force, including tanks, guns, bombs and torpedoes.

On the other hand, the German air defense force, especially the fighter force, opened fierce dog-fights with the attackers and inflicted severe losses on the bombers, but according to a London report, the American air force headquarters, to hide the true fact of the losses, announced that eight bombers, two fighters and eight strategic planes were knocked down by the German ground batteries.

U.S. TO REDUCE GREATLY MEAT EXPORT TO BRITAIN

Step Taken to Boost Supply To Army; Soviet Union Getting Huge Quantity

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, March 19.—The decision of the United States Government to reduce the Lend-Lease shipments of meat to Britain may, if carried out, entail reduction in civilian meat ration from one shilling and two pence weekly to about one shilling, according to a London report.

The British Ministry of Food is studying implications of the United States announcement that in the second quarter of this year, April to June, Britain will receive only 25,000,000 pounds of meat or about 12½ per cent of the amount she received in the first quarter allocation which was 207,000,000 pounds, the balance of 300,000,000 pounds will go to the Soviet Union, the report said.

"No decision has yet been taken with regard to the ration," the spokesman of the Food Ministery said. "The decision certainly jeopardizes the meat ration here. We cannot maintain the one and two pence level without the help of the United States."

The chief reason for the American decision is increasing needs of the United States army. The American civilian supplies of meat have been cut by 12 per cent, but the American army supplies have been increased by 4 per cent to help to feed the civilians under army control.

A London report said that Prime Minister Churchill on being notified that further distributions of meat to Britain would be impossible in the near future is said to have frankly told President Roosevelt that he must now look after Britain and cannot allow his fellow countrymen to undertake further slashes of shipments unless absolutely necessary.

Meanwhile, the British press is predicting an important announcement in the House of Commons shortly. One report said that the American reduction of shipments to England would cut the weekly meat rations from 24 to 20 cents worth per person.

Meat Dearth Acute

Domei

LISBON, March 19.—Severe and growing shortages of all kinds of meat for the American public, so serious that they are "bordering on a meat famine in many parts of the country," was reported today by the American Meat Institute, according to a Chicago dispatch.

Announcing the results of a nation-wide survey made for the Office of Price Administration, the Institute said: "For the first time since meat rationing began, many meat items now are reported, for the country as a whole, as being 100 per cent short of the demand. It is true, too, that the supply of meat for vital war purpose, for our army and navy, and for domestic consumers undoubtedly will continue to get much worse."

Rations in U.S. Slashed

Domei

LISBON, March 18.—One immediate civilian cutback announced last week in the United States was the reduction of rationed food allotments to all industrial users, affecting bakers, manufacturers of beverages, pharmaceuticals, fruit spreads and other products which call for rationed ingredients, according to a Washington dispatch. Most industrial users will get 5 per cent less sugar, and commercial users of fats and oils will face a 20 to 28 per cent reduction, the dispatch added.

Meat rations will be reduced by 12 per cent in the United States, it was officially announced today, says another Washington dispatch. The same announcement added that meat deliveries under the lend-lease arrangement will also be cut, but that supplies for the American forces will be increased.

Commons' Debate Set

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, March 19.—The British Government's policy on civil aviation, housing and postwar industry will be debated in the House of Commons this week, says a London report.

The debate on civil aviation will take place tomorrow along the lines of the Government's White Paper issued last week. The bill on postwar industry will be debated on Wednesday. The debate on housing will be spread over two days, Thursday and Friday, and it is expected that many members will give their views on this urgent problem.

Prayer for Eternity of Japanese Empire Expressed in Kuribayashi's Last Message

After fighting for a whole month with unparalleled courage and heroism against the overwhelming enemy odds on Yiojima Island, during which time such stupendous losses were inflicted on the enemy as he had never expected, the entire members of the Japanese garrison on the island, led by Lieutenant General Tadamichi Kuribayashi, Supreme Commander of the Army Forces in the Ogasawara Area, carried out the final attack at midnight of March 17, as was announced by the Imperial Headquarters Wednesday.

Prior to launching the final charge, Lieutenant General Kuribayashi sent the last telegraphic message, in which he expressed his conviction and the conviction of all those under him that, though dead, they shall be on the island to herald the coming back of the Imperial Forces.

Lieutenant General Kuribayashi's last message follows:

"The war situation has finally reached the last stage.

"At midnight of March 17, I, your humble officer, at the head of all those under my personal direction, shall carry out a final general attack, praying for the sure victory and welfare of the Empire.

"I am satisfied that the Japanese Forces have kept up their defense against the enemy offensives from the land, sea and air with numerical superiority beyond imagination since their landing. The brave fighting of the officers and men under my command is worthy enough to make even the gods dumbfounded.

"However, our fighting men have fallen one after another before the persistent enemy attacks. I am extremely sorry that circumstances have caused us to let this key position fall into the enemy's hands, for which I offer my thousand pardons.

"Thinking especially of the fact that the Imperial Land shall not be placed in a peaceful situation without taking back this island, we expect that we ourselves, though dead, shall herald the coming back of the Imperial Troops to this island.

"All our bullets are gone now and no supply of water can be had. On the eve of conducting the last assault by the entire body of men, we cannot but be reminded of the gracious Imperial benevolence. With this in mind, we shall never regret having done our utmost for the cause of the Empire.

"With loud and respectful banzai for the Imperial eternity, I, together with the officers and men, offer my last farewell.

"I hasten to present to your inspection some 31-syllable Japanese poems I have found time to compose.

"'1. It grieves me that I have to die, having used up my supply of bullets, it having not been my lot to perform the weighty function I had to the country.'

"'2. I will not decay on the plain without taking revenge. I will take up arms each of seven times I come into the world.'

"'3. My sole thought is about the course of my country at a time when unsightly plants have covered the island.'

"Lieutenant General Kuribayashi."

SOCIAL DEMOCRATS LEAD IN ELECTION IN FINLAND

Obtain 52 Seats in Parliament; Soviet Newspapers Support Finnish Leftist Party

Domei

STOCKHOLM, March 20.—The makeup of the Finnish Parliament, according to the latest final results, is expected as follows: Social Democrats, 52 seats; Peoples' Democrats, 49; Peasant Party, 48; Party of National Union, 28; Swedish Peoples' Party, 16; and Progressives, seven. There may still be some slight changes as votes from the Province of Lappland have not yet come in, according to a Helsinki report.

Another report said that 1,800,000 people went to the polls and that the Soviet Union had not interferred with the polling although Soviet papers naturally supported the Finnish Leftists.

Election Outcome Expected

Domei

BERLIN, March 20.—"Communism is an illness of the vanquished," Minister Dr. Paul Schmidt, spokesman of the Wilhelmstrasse declared at today's foreign press conference when commenting on the outcome of the Finnish elections. Finland was no exception, and while the course of the illness might vary, the end was always death, he declared. "Paasikivi will not remain the Premier of Finland for very long," although he is doing everything he can to play his role of Kerenski the spokesman said, "His way is that of Radescu."

"Only bourgeois-minded people indulging in illusions could be surprised at the outcome of the Finnish elections," he continued. "At the expense of the Social Democrats and of the bourgeois parties, the Communists, while yet a minority, have gained sufficient strength—as shown by the examples of Rumania and Serbia—to enforce Communist leadership in Finland."

"The bourgeois parties are those which Vyshinski in Bucharest described as obsolete," Dr. Schmidt said with reference to the bourgeois parties in Finland.

Turning to the criticism in the British and American papers about the Russian procedure in Rumania, Dr. Schmidt declared that he did not believe that it would lead to any reactions by the British or American Governments.

"Britain," he said, "made a diagnosis, but failed to deliver the medicine. The Anglo-American doctors thus sat around the corpse of Poland, at the deathbed of Rumania and at the side of the bed-ridden Finland. All they would do in the long run would be to lay a wreath with the British colors on the grave."

Arab Constitution Settled

Special to the Nippon Times

ZURICH, March 19.—The Constitution of the Arab League was finally settled today, according to a Cairo report.

PERMANENT SEAT OFFER STATED MADE TO BRAZIL

Inclusion as 6th Member on Security Council Said Decided at Crimea Meet

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, March 19.—U.S. Secretary of State Edward Stettinius reportedly informed Brazilian President Getulio Vargas that the Crimea Conference decided to offer Brazil a permanent seat in the United Nations Security Council, according to Brazilian sources in Mexico City, reports the Daily Telegraph correspondent from the Mexican capital.

Neither Stettinius nor Vargas issued any statement on what passed between them when Stettinius visited Rio de Janeiro on the way to Mexico City.

The Daily Telegraph correspondent further says:

Should Brazil occupy the sixth permanent seat on the Security Council, certain immediate consequences become inevitable. They are: Brazil will have been recognized as a great power and a preponderant position for her in South America conceded. Brazil of necessity will drop her anti-Communist line and renew diplomatic relations with Soviet Russia. The Argentine problem will be sidestepped.

There is a further point of great importance to the United States' people if Brazil should join the Security Council. Realignment such as this would completely alter the balance of political and economic forces in the Americas. The recognition of Brazil as a great power would be premature, it is thought here, because of the basic requirements of such a status—the extent of territory, population, industrialization and military might. Brazil has only the first. With Brazil not yet having natural capacity of a great power, other South American countries might, it is feared, be caused to coalesce against it.

Many Latin American delegates here said that they welcome the discussion of economic topics on the conference agenda as a means of increasing interdependence of the Americas. This means in effect—often meant until now—that they desire to increase the dependence of Latin America on United States consumption and production power. But should Brazil be recognized as a great power in its own right, the United States still would have the duty to create or assist in the creation of the three features still lacking in that country. And that duty to offset coalition against relatively still weak Brazil would of necessity have to continue until that country could assume a true role of great going.

Ban Plane Landing in Rumania

Domei

BERLIN, March 20.—British and American planes have been prohibited from landing in Rumania by the Soviet military authorities in Bucharest, according to the New York Times today.

ENEMY TASK FORCES FLEE AS ANOTHER CARRIER SUNK

One More Also Damaged, Says I.H.Q. Communique; Our Airmen Expanding Results

IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS' COMMUNIQUE
3:30 p.m., March 21

"The enemy task forces are now fleeing toward the south since the morning of March 20.

"Hotly chasing them, Our Air Forces are now expanding their war results.

"Of the war results obtained on March 20, those confirmed up to the present follow:

Sunk—1 regular aircraft carrier
Damaged—1 regular aircraft carrier."

Preparing for Attack

Following the Japanese general attack on the Yiojima invaders on March 17, the United States offensive operations will be intensified in the future more than ever before in an attempt to strike the Japanese mainland.

Meanwhile, the American task forces appeared in the area southeast of Kyushu and their carrier-borne planes raided Kyushu, Shikoku as well as the Hanshin districts on two consecutive days of March 18 and 19 but no enemy carrier-borne planes were sighted at various places of Japan Proper on and after March 20.

Nevertheless, much attention is being focussed on the future action of the United States task forces which after sustaining tremendous losses in their activities off Kyushu appeared to have moved southward in an attempt to readjust their strength. However, although they have retired to the south, the task forces are still plying in the waters south of Shikoku and they have not cruised far away from the Japanese mainland.

As in the raid over the Kanto district last month, the two-day attack over the Kyushu, Shikoku and Hanshin areas was directed with the enemy trying to reduce the Japanese aerial strength and also to destroy the military installations besides disrupting traffic facilities.

In spite of the sustaining heavy blows, the enemy task forces will apparently continue similar operations with the aim of securing the sea and air supremacy in the Japanese neighboring waters and their future activities are being closely watched with great attention.

Enemy Submarines Active

By J. TSUTSUMI
Of the Military Press Corps

CONTINENTAL BASE, March 18. The enemy scheme to launch a massive operation to westward, with the East China Sea as the pivotal point, is revealed in the movement of enemy submarines which have changed their course from proceeding northward through the South China Sea from the direction of the waters east of French Indo-China to the East China Sea area immediately following the attack on Kyushu with carrier-borne aircraft.

The reasons for this concentration of enemy war vessels in the East China Sea area can be surmised as, firstly, an attempt to secure an operational area nearest to the Japanese mainland; secondly, an attempt to cut the commissary line between Japan and the Southern Regions; and lastly, a maneuver to establish a position which will qualify him to participate in the settlement of the China Continent after the end of the war.

The enemy has already attempted to establish a shortest possible operational route by intruding into the Yangtze River area from his bases in the Central Pacific via the Okinawa Islands.

U.S. Building New Carrier

Domei

LISBON, March 18.—The 4th Naval District today disclosed that the Philadelphia Navy Yards is building a new and larger aircraft carrier, Princeton, to replace the one sunk by the Japanese off the Philippines on October 25, according to a Philadelphia dispatch. The new carrier of 27,000 standard tons will displace over twice the tonnage of the former and will be 850 feet long, the announcement said.

Hachiya Arrives at Post

Domei

RANGOON, March 19.—Teruo Hachiya, the first Japanese Minister to the Azad Hind Provisional Government, reached his post by air on the evening of March 17 and made a courtesy call on the various circles concerned today.

His Imperial Majesty Officiates at Rites For Shunki Koreisai

On the occasion of the Shunki Koreisai, Wednesday, His Majesty the Emperor personally officiated at the Shinto rites in memory of the Imperial ancestors solemnized at the Imperial Sanctuary. Prince Kinteru Sanjo, Chief Court Ritualist of the Imperial Household Department, assisted. All schools and public institutions were closed for the occasion, and appropriate services held throughout the nation.

GERMAN SCRIBE PRAISES JAPAN'S JUST ATTITUDE

Lauds Nippon Army for Speedy Restoration of Peace and Order in Hanoi

Domei

HANOI, March 20.—The just manner adopted as usual by the Japanese Army in discharging its duties here and the speedy restoration of peace and order were highly lauded by the DNB's correspondent here who, in his report, said:

"The Japanese Army, after speedily and effectively disarming the French armed forces here, established peace and order without causing any bloodshed among the citizens at large. All the citizens have resumed their activities with their minds at rest, whereas they had been constantly threatened by hunger up to one week ago.

"Food supply questions are being settled one after another, and Government offices and other public organs are efficiently conducting their activities.

"The attitude of the Japanese Army authorities is highly chivalrous. They are making themselves objects of admiration by all the citizens here on account of their wonderful self-possession and the justice with which they are discharging their duties.

"Japan's superiority in the field of administration has thus been perfectly brought to light. This draws a clear line of demarcation between the irresponsible attitude of the French administrators who left the officials under their care and the Annamese people at large in a situation in which they did not know what the future had in store for them.

"Recently, the French propaganda service here, in a most clumsy manner, criticized Germany, against which the well-informed Japanese parties here had filed strong protests. Now, such fine cooperation between Germany and Japan will be more strongly emphasized than heretofore."

REFUSE U.S. ALLECIANCE

Americans of Japanese Parentage Resist Pressure

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, March 19.—About 6,000 or 7,000 Americans of Japanese parentage aged more than 17, now detained in the Tule Lake Detention Camp, refuse to pledge allegiance to the United States, Representative Harry L. Englebright, Republican of California declared.

These internees are resisting the pressure of the American authorities. They probably intend to annul their American citizenship—in fact more than 1,500 are reported to have signed a document denying American nationality.

About 150 of the leaders are expected to be moved to the Enemy Nationals' Detention Camp at Santa Fe.

Peoples' Conference Opening

Domei

NANKING, March 20.—Wholehearted collaboration for the attainment of the objective at the forthcoming National Wartime Peoples Representatives' Conference was assured in telegraphic answeres received yesterday by the sponsors of the Conference from various organizations. Messages asking for the collaboration of the China General Headquarters of the East Asia Federation, the Committee for the Promotion of the New Citizens' Movement and the Hsinmin Society were wired by the sponsors of the Conference.

2 B-29's Over Japan

One B-29 bomber made a reconnaissance flight over Osaka, Awajishima and at the mouth of Ise Bay shortly after 1 a.m. on Wednesday while another B-29 also flew over the same area at about 4 a.m. the same day. No bombs were dropped, however.

JAPANESE AT YIOJIMA LAUNCH FINAL DRIVE AGAINST U.S. TROOPS

Lt. General Kuribayashi Leads Forces; Enemy Casualties Total 33,000, I.H.Q. Says

Imperial Japanese Forces on Yiojima after engaging in bitter fighting for about one month since the American troops landed on the island finally launched a general attack with Lieutenant General Tadamichi Kuribayashi at the head at midnight of March 17, the Imperial Headquarters announced in its communique issued at noon on Wednesday.

All the communications were interrupted following the receipt of a telegram stating that all the officers and men with the Supreme Commander in the lead directed a fierce general attack at midnight of March 17 in praying for Japan's sure victory and tranquillity of the Fatherland, the communique disclosed.

The Japanese Forces on Yiojima have inflicted about 33,000 casualties on the American officers and men since the enemy landed on the island up to March 16, the communique added.

The communique follows:

IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS' COMMUNIQUE
At Noon, March 21

"(1) Our Forces on Yiojima continued to fight gallantly for about one month since the enemy's landing and particularly on and after March 13, they had been ceaselessly engaged in bitter fighting holding their retrenched positions at North Village and in the neighborhood of Higashiyama. But as the war situation turned to a grave phase, a telegram was dispatched from Yiojima stating, 'All the officers and men with the Supreme Commander at the head launched a dauntless general attack at midnight of March 17 in praying for Japan's sure victory as well as the tranquillity of the Imperial Land.' Since then, communication was interrupted.

"(2) Losses inflicted upon the enemy forces in the ground battles since the enemy's landing on the said island up to March 16 are about 33,000."

Launch Final Attack

Under the direct command of Lieutenant General Tadamichi Kuribayashi, the Imperial Japanese Forces garrisoned at Yiojima finally launched a vigorous general attack against the American invasion troops at midnight of March 17 after engaging in bitter fighting for nearly one month.

Following the enemy's landing on the island on February 19, the Japanese Forces united as one body with the iron determination to defend the island to the last fought valiantly day and night in severe battles with the numerically superior invasion forces after overcoming many obstacles and hardships in defiance of the heavy shelling and bombing operations.

Entirely depending on the material superiority, the American troops covered by fleet bombardments and air bombings as well as supported by strong tank units persistently pushed their stubborn offensive drive. Despite the heavy casualties aggregating about 33,000, the Americans eventually infiltrated into the Japanese positions at North Village and in the vicinity of Higashiyama on and after March 13.

With the situation on the island confronted with the final decisive phase, a telegram was dispatched by Supreme Commander Lieutenant General Tadamichi Kuribayashi prior to the commencement of the general attack. With this message as the last, all the communications had been interrupted.

As was announced by the Imperial Headquarters, the Japanese Forces in counterattacking the Americans inflicted devastating blows on the invaders who suffered the loss of about 33,000 killed and wounded alone in the fierce battles in the short period of less than one month following the landing on the island.

Strongly holding the belief in Japan's final victory, all the officers and men of the Imperial Forces together with the Supreme Commander finally stormed into the enemy troops in the final general attack.

91,373 U.S. Naval Casualties

Domei

LISBON, March 19.—The U.S. Navy Department announced today that the personnel losses sustained by the navy, marine corps and the coast guard from the outset of the current war up to March 17, totaled 91,373, according to a Washington dispatch.

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America's Yiojima Losses

Admiral Chester Nimitz' headquarters announced last Friday that the casualties suffered by the United States marines on Yiojima so far total 19,938, including 4,189 killed, 15,308 wounded, and 411 missing. These figures pertain only to the losses suffered by the three divisions of the marine corps which were landed on the island, and do not include the losses suffered by the naval, air, and other supplementary forces which took part in the supporting action. In view of the customary American practice of announcing their casualties piecemeal and of suppressing the whole truth, it is probably safe to assume that the actual American casualties amount to a good deal more than these reported figures.

But even these announced figures are astounding enough. They indicate that the Americans lost 45 per cent of their strength within the first 26 days of their invasion of this tiny island, that the losses averaged 766 per day, or one every two minutes. They constitute the bloodiest and most costly fighting which any unit of the American fighting forces has ever experienced in all the history of the United States. So disastrous have been the American losses on Yiojima in proportion to the number of troops engaged that the American public has been stirred to unexpected criticism and protest, while the authorities have been forced to make unusual means to allay the popular misgivings through tortured explanations and exhortations.

These unprecedented American losses are a shining testimony to the bravery and grim tenacity of the Japanese defenders of Yiojima. Greatly outnumbered and overwhelmed by quantitatively superior enemy arms, the Japanese on Yiojima have nevertheless forced the enemy to pay a terrific toll. Every inch of that little island has had to be exacted by a drain on the life blood of the flower of American manhood; each Japanese soldier has disposed of more than one American marine. Whatever may be the final outcome of the fighting on that island, the Yiojima campaign will be remembered forever for the fierce heroism of the outnumbered defenders who were able to inflict such crippling losses upon the discomfited foe.

Their losses on Yiojima, terrifying as they have been, are however but a small-scale foretaste of what is in further store for the Americans. The closer they approach the Japanese mainland, the more strongly fortified and defended are the Japanese positions and more grimly and determinedly will the Japanese resist. If the losses on Yiojima have been such a shock to the Americans, what will be the effect when the Americans begin suffering far greater losses as they come closer to Japan? For there is no question that the Japanese will force the Americans to pay dearly for their advance; how dearly the Americans can judge from the fact that every Japanese to the last man will fight as furiously as the defenders of Yiojima. Japan can never be defeated, for there will be no end of resistance as long as a single Japanese lives. And all that the Americans will have to show for their vain assault will be such losses as they have suffered on Yiojima multiplied a thousandfold.

United States Bases in Latin America

There seem to be substantial reasons for believing the recent reports to the effect that the United States has been carrying on secret negotiations with Brazil with the aim of securing the right of permanent control over Natal. The importance to the United States of this strategic base on the eastern bulge of Brazil can be seen from the fact that together with Dakar on the west coast of Africa it constitutes a dominating position for the control of the southern Atlantic. The United States is also reported to be carrying on similar secret negotiations with Ecuador with the view of securing permanent control over the Galapagoes Islands.

It stands to reason that having once secured all of these strategic points as a temporary wartime measure, the United States should seek to continue her occupation on a permanent basis. For, in view of the patent far-reaching ambition for world domination on the part of the United States, it is no secret that she has been strenuously endeavoring to secure military, naval, and air bases throughout Latin America. It is merely a natural extension of her Caribbean policy.

For many years it had been the determined policy of the United States to make of the Caribbean Sea an American lake. With the progress of the present war, this long pursued policy has been virtually completed. Despite the American claim that this policy is designed for the protection of the American continent, the truth is that the Caribbean Sea can be used as a gigantic base area from which naval operations can be projected into both the Atlantic and the Pacific Oceans, as well as toward the continent of Africa. No less an authority than Admiral Alfred T. Mahan has pointed out the importance of the Caribbean Sea for the control of both the Atlantic and the Pacific. This statement of the famous theoriest is to be interpreted, not as expressing the negative aim of defense, but as reflecting the positive ambition of the United States to dominate the two great oceans of the world. The acquisition of additional bases in the next peripheral zone beyond the Caribbean area is but a logical step in the unfolding of this ambition.

Even before the present war there were signs that the United States entertained aggressive designs on the African continent. With the progress of the war, these designs have been unmistakably revealed. Today there is no doubt that the United States is trying to usurp the rights and interests which Britain had built up on that continent in the past. Not only has the war facilitated the growth of trade relations between the United States and Africa, but the United States has been forcefully advancing her interests through such recent acts as the opening of numerous consulates on the west coast of Africa, the establishment of air routes to all the important points on that continent, the expansion of shipping service in that direction, and the placing of vast investments in various industrial enterprises in that region. It is only natural that side by side with such imperialistic activities in Africa, the United States should try to strengthen her hold on Latin America which is so important to the control of the southern Atlantic route to Africa.

As the recent Crimea Conference proved, the United States, in contrast to her attitude at the time of the last World War, has now committed herself definitely to a policy of establishing her interests not only in East Asia and Europe but throughout the world. Her attempt to gain important military footholds in Latin America, as well as her machinations at the recent Inter-American Conference at Mexico City, are parts of the process of working toward this American world design.

A Year Ago Today
March 22, 1944

Chancellor Adolf Hitler, at the proposal of Reich Foreign Minister Joachim von Ribbentrop, has appointed Dr. Edmund Veehsenmayer as German Ambassador Plenipotentiary to Hungary, replacing Ambassador von Jagow who was recalled for service in the Reich Foreign Ministry.

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The anti-Axis headquarters in Southeastern Asia, in a communique, announced that the Japanese Forces which had started offensive operations along the Chindwin River have continued their advance in the mountainous areas and have crossed the frontier into Manipur Province at one or two points, it is reported from New Delhi.

INHERENT BEAUTY

Shorn of Artificiality, Young Women Reveal Purity

By MICHIKO YOKOYAMA

The author of this short article won wide popular acclaim several years ago with her novel "Green Horizon", which later appeared in a movie hit. Mrs. Yokoyama's main appeal lies in her capacity to pull out meaning from an apparent meaninglessness.

"Have you noticed that young women today have lost their charm?" is the remark very often heard these days.

I am glad, however, I could never get myself to acknowledge this view. Of course, a feeling more or less of untidiness may pervade the outward appearance of people in general nowadays. But on the other hand I have seen with my own eyes scenes innumerable where from out of an apparent disorder there flowered a fresh and vigorous beauty, and remember many times having been struck with soothing joy.

Whoever would have thought, in the days when at the department stores one found from the top story to the bottom, shelves and racks full of fine clothing and bright bric-a-bracs, that the kon-gasuri (dark-blue cloth with white dots and splashes) and the striped calico, both of which are suppressed in tone of color and fit only for old people to wear, could come in use as materials to bring out and accentuate the beauty of girls and young married women!

True Beauty Hidden

True feminine beauty was kept hidden and warped by glamour and deception in the old days. I should think that the beauty of man is far more natural and basically far more pure than to require the auxiliary effect of external ornamentation. The age in which cosmetics and decorations kept concealed the innate beauty of man was the age of blind liberalism, of extravagance and superfluity in all matters. But today the drastic change in the times has enabled the bringing about of a complete, miraculous riddance of this bondage, this making up, and, man has emerged in his undefiled and undeceiving guise.

How pure, noble and beautiful is the state of being in love with no absolute vacancy or complete detachment. For it is when all is conquered that gives birth to a life that is new, and a world of beauty undreamed of is opened before you. It is the rebirth, in other words, of a thing that had been entirely forgotten or hidden from consciousness.

When I experience the great change of the times today with all my heart and soul, and observe keenly the grand, new "life-force" susciated by the womanhood of our country, through victory over the many absurdities of the past, I confess enjoying insatiable mirth and profound reverence.

One scene that won my deep respect and thanks was on a rainy day. It was at the tram-stop before the Seijoh Girl's School in Tokyo. From the tram window I saw a girl, perhaps twenty-three years old, sitting and waiting for a tram going the other way. She wore today's standard womens wear, the mompei. This girl's was made of kon-gasuri, both the top and bottom pieces. The suit became her perfectly. And she was quietly absorbed in a book. Her face was distinguished by a strength peculiar to the Japanese fair sex of old; firm with will, yet reserved and innocent. Her carriage and expression reflected an ineffable naivete and a warmness which comes only from human love. I have very seldom laid eyes on such perfect harmony as that formed by the blending of the black and white of this girl's mompei, with the person's affable physical and spiritual bearing. How purged and refreshing were the effects produced by those white dots and splashes speckling her blue clothes, white designs no bigger than the tip of her small finger.

Spiritual Purity

The beauty came less from the girl's natural attractiveness than from a certain indescriptive modesty which she bore and which accounted, no doubt, for that strange spiritual purity. It was a purity which transcended the sordid, a beauty that transported one, softly and tenderly, to a state of far-away nostalgia. Strangely, the girl's mompei reminded one of what our guardians and those who came before them were wont to wear in times gone by. The dress transposed this girl into a thing of beauty perhaps difficult to seek otherwise. And beauty emanated from within: it was a spiritual, noble beauty. This, however, was not to be considered strange. It was only natural. For the highest form of beauty is derived from the natural. It is nobleness of heart which lends color to colorlessness and beauty and warmth are brought into relief from simplicity.

Today is a time of many denials descending upon our lives, denials such as our parents apparently had not even dreamed of. Many, many things which previously were thought satisfactory, have now put on an entirely different guise and no longer serve the day's purpose and needs. It is now a full reliance on the heavenly powers that directs and gives force to our daily lives. Only the full confidence of being able to give birth to something new and strong can enable the people of a nation to comply with the will of the gods.

Now is a time when women must live their lives in the raw, with the beauty they were born with. Beauty is inherent, not acquired. Nobleness of heart together with purity of mind alone, can render, unconsciously perhaps, but without fail, the birth of strength and beauty. The resuscitation of this beauty will fill all with joy give light and stamina to life, and what is more, it would symbolize the garland of final victory for the nation.

INTERNATIONAL RECONSTRUCTION BANK PLAN

Editor's Note: The following may be regarded as a sequel to the article which was entitled "The United Nations Monetary Agreement" and published in this column on February 18, 19 and 20 last. The present article, also prepared by the Sekai Keizai Chosa-kai, deals with the International Reconstruction Bank plan which was discussed and adopted, parallel with the "Monetary Agreement," by the anti-Axis countries at the Bretton Woods Conference.

I

The International Reconstruction Bank plan which was discussed and adopted at the Bretton Woods Conference and is popularly known as the "World Bank" plan is a sister scheme of the Stabilization Fund proposed in the "United Nations Monetary Agreement." They are so closely related to each other that the former cannot be operated without the latter, while the latter cannot function successfully without the former. In the drafting of both, the United States and Britain took the leading part, and it seems that the former country's deep design is more markedly manifest in the World Bank plan. How far, then, will the anti-Axis economic war power be augmented by this scheme and exactly what does the United States intend or expect to achieve by it? In considering these points, let us first describe the circumstances leading up to the elaboration of the plan and then examine its details.

II

The United States and Britain have been engaged earnestly in the discussion of various plans for the postwar economic reconstruction since the fall of 1943. Their object was primarily to preclude postwar conflicts of interests among the anti-Axis countries and further to drive propaganda intended for minor members of their camp. With this end in view, they have called several international conferences to discuss various subjects, but what claimed their attention most as pivotal of all postwar economic measures was the Stabilization Fund plan, which, as already noted, was finally approved at the Bretton Woods Conference after a good deal of preliminary discussions. On the World Bank plan, as on the Stabilization Fund, there arose a divergence of views between Britain and the United States. Britain, with whom the consideration of raw materials weighed heavier than that of money, came forward with the international materials pool plan, and had it taken up with the United States Government. However, the American Government gave it the cold shoulder and proposed, instead, the World Bank as a machinery for the accommodation of the funds with which to obtain materials, and the details of this plan were disclosed by Henry Morgenthau, Secretary of the Treasury, in a Congress committee on October 6, 1943. This American plan was received more favorably by the anti-Axis countries than the Stabilization Fund scheme, so much so that many of them regarded it as the more important of the two. These countries favored the World Bank plan not simply because of the promises the plan offered them for the supply of the requisite fund, but because of the unpopularity of the Bank for International Settlement. Much prejudiced criticism was prevalent among them of the Bank for International Settlement on the score that it had been ministering more to the Axis interests since the outbreak of the war, a criticism which was given free vent in the Second Committee of the Bretton Woods Conference, culminating in a general demand for its immediate liquidation.

It is difficult to believe that the Bank for International Settlement showed a predilection for the Axis side, as was alleged by the committee members representing small anti-Axis countries. This accusation is, indeed, clearly repudiated by a section of British and Dutch financiers. In the United States, too, some financiers do not hesitate to express themselves highly appreciative of its strictly neutral attitude and of the good work it has done in the way of economic research. It cannot, however, be denied that the Bank, in its present form, is such as to lend color to the prejudiced view of these small anti-Axis countries. As it stands, over 70 per cent of the Bank's stock is held by the Axis countries and also a majority of directors were chosen of their nationals, though the board is presided over by an American. Moreover, during the past few years the Bank has been forced to suspend its proper function of international settlement.

In these circumstances, the Bretton Woods Conference chose to recommend the dissolution of the Bank. In British quarters, there was a fairly strong body of opinion against its dissolution, but the general trend in the Conference was to dissolve the Bank and to transfer the international clearing business and its work of the collection of statistical and other information to the Stabilization Fund and also hand over to the World Bank its function as the central machinery for the cooperation of the central banks of all countries.

III

At the Bretton Woods Conference, the World Bank plan was discussed in the Second Committee, and its debate passed off quietly without such heated controversies as attended the deliberation of the Stabilization Fund in the First Committee of the Conference. This plain sailing was primarily due to the fact that the plan was just the sort of thing which many countries had desired to have, while it was drafted in a very short time without adequate preparatory negotiations with the consequence that many points of detail, which might have provoked controversy, were left for future discussion.

The capital of the Bank was a subject of much debate, to begin with. Since it concerns the Bank's capacity for lending, the desire was unanimous to have it as high a figure as possible, and it was finally fixed at 10,000,000,000 dollars or double the amount as was provided for in the original plan. On the contrary, the matter of quotas was generally treated with singular lukewarmness, as the quota allotted to a member does not condition the amount of the loan it can obtain. Some countries even asked for the reduction of the quotas originally allotted to them. The rate of interest on loans, the amount of gold capital and its payment by war-devastated countries furnished other subjects of lively debate. In these discussions, the self-seeking motives of all countries were revealed most overtly. Eventually, the interest rate was fixed at 3 per cent per annum plus the Bank's commission of 1 per cent, the subscription in gold was fixed at 2 per cent, and its payment by war-devastated countries was so decided that they should pay 1.5 per cent at the first call and he remaining 0.5 per cent five years after.

IV

The proposed institution will perhaps be officially styled the "International Reconstruction Bank," and it will probably be opened for business at the beginning of 1946.

Structurally, it is a bank, pure and simple, and it is so termed in the draft. However, it is of an entirely novel form as an international institution of financing. In its details, it is different from the Bank for International Settlement. Being organized under an international agreement to be concluded among the anti-Axis countries, each of its member countries must enact appropriate domestic laws according to the contractual obligations and must give the Bank a special position in the conduct of its business. Although, as already mentioned, a small portion of subscriptions will be paid in gold, the major portion will be paid in U.S. dollars. The other currencies used in the payment of subscriptions will be converted into U.S. dollars. The principal office of the Bank is to be located in the territory of the member holding the largest number of shares, namely in the United States. In short, the Bank has the entire territories of its member countries as the field of its business operations and all member countries are called upon to recognize its freedom of business within the limits of stipulations of the agreement. This is where it differs from private investment institutions, as, for example, British and American overseas banking houses or the Rothschilds or the Morgans.

The Bank plan is closely related to the Stabilization Fund. The smaller anti-Axis countries hold the Bank scheme to be more important than the Stabilization Fund, but it is possible that the benefits they derive therefrom will entail on them restraints bigger than are involved in the Fund plan. The leading countries expect that it will not only prove an organ requisite for enabling the Stabilization Fund to attain its final object but will make a substantial contribution toward the currency stabilization.

Technically speaking, the two plans are closely related to each other. For instance, the Bank's shareholders are limited to the countries participating in the Stabilization Fund, and the territories where its funds are employed are alike confined to those in which the interests of these countries lie. The quotas are fixed conformably to those of the Stabilization Fund. The administration, too, is modelled after that of the Fund. In the World Bank plan, as in the Stabilization Fund, no exchange restrictions is to be imposed on the movement of the Bank's funds involved in the lending or the collection of funds, while certain specified obligatory conditions are imposed on the exchange of one currency for another. Similarly also, as in the case of the Stabilization Fund, provision is made in the World Bank plan that member countries who withdraw, either voluntarily or corpulsorily, automatically forfeit their right as shareholders.

V

The purpose of the Bank is (1) to assist in the reconstruction and development of territories of members, (2) to promote private foreign investments, (3) to promote long-range balanced growth of international trade and the maintenance of equilibrium in balances of payments, (4) to arrange international loans for useful and urgent projects, and (5) to conduct international investments to assits the bringing about of a smooth transition from wartime to peacetime economy.

In order to accomplish the above purpose, the Bank intends (1) to facilitate the investment of capital for productive purposes, (2) to promote investments by means of guarantees or participations in loans and other investments made by private investors, (3) to encourage international investments, (4) to arrange loans guaranteed by the Bank in relation to international loans through other channels, and (5) to conduct the Bank's operations with due regard to the effect of international investments on business conditions in the territories of members.

Its aim is, after all, to restore the industries destroyed or disrupted by the war. As to matters concerned with the development of economically backward countries, these will in all probability be sidetracked. Stipulations providing for the Bank's guarantees and participations in loans and other investments are particularly important. The United States evidently intends to facilitate the overseas investment of her capital by these means.

In conjunction with the Stabilization Fund, the Bank plan aims at the regulation of the balances of payments of member countries and at the long-range balanced growth of their international trade. It is widely advertised that by these means the real incomes of nations in the anti-Axis "democratic" countries can be increased through the maintenance of high standards of living and full employment. What the Governments of anti-Axis countries dread most is that the repatriation to their respective countries, with the restoration of peace, of large amounts of capital now detained or frozen by wartime exchange restrictions or of capital control may cause serious commotion in domestic money markets, and the World Bank plan is welcomed as furnishing the only effective device to prevent such a contingency. It is regarded as the most pertinent scehme for safeguarding the frozen foreign capitals and for ensuring their release as productive funds in the regions they are located.

VI

The World Bank which has been so favorably received by the anti-Axis countries is, according to its plan, to be organized along the following lines:

The Bank's credit resources consist of the share capital, loans and the special reserve. Firstly, the authorized capital stock of the Bank is 10,000,000,000 dollars in terms of U.S. dollars of weight and fineness in effect on July 1, 1944. Of this total, 9,100,000,000 dollars will be allotted to 44 countries formally accepting membership, and 900,000,000 dollars will be left for subscription by other nations. Membership is open for acceptance until December 31, 1945.

The capital stock is divided into 100,000 shares with par value of 100,000 dollars each, of which amount 2 per cent is payable in gold or U.S. dollars and 18 per cent in the currency of each member equivalent in value to the stipulated U.S. dollars. These comprise the payment at the first call. The remaining 80 per cent is to be payable according to the Bank's needs. The quotas listed follow the same order as in the Stabilization Fund, and the sums allotted also correspond thereto, on the whole, though in the case of the United States, the amount is larger than her quota in the Stabilization Fund by 400,000,000 dollars and in the case of Chungking it is larger by 50,000,000 dollars. The quotas for Britain, the Soviet Union and France are exactly the same as those provided for in the Monetary Agreement. That is, the quotas for the United States, Britain, the Soviet Union, Chungking and France are 3,175,000,000; 1,300,000,000; 1,200,000,000; 600,000,000; and 450,000,000 dollars respectively.

Secondly, besides its authorized capital, the Bank can have loan funds, which represent the special loans or bond funds raised in the market. The bonds may be termed "reconstruction bonds." Loans may be raised in various markets of member countries and the rate of interest is fixed, as already noted, at 3 per cent per annum for the present. These loan funds will chiefly be used in the Bank's participation in loans made through other channels. The total amount outstanding of guarantees and participations in loans and direct loans made by the Bank is not allowed to be increased at any time if by such increase the total would exceed by 100 per cent unimpaired and subscribed capital reserve and the surplus of the Bank. Such being the case, the bonds to be issued will be of practically the same amount as the capital.

Thirdly, as to the special reserve, it consists of the commissions charged on loans and guarantee fees received and accumulated by the Bank. This reserve fund is to be used only for meeting the liabilities of the Bank involved in case of defaults on loans made, participated in or guaranteed by it.

The Bank's liquid funds thus consist of the share capital, bonds and loans. According to the plan, the Bank will, at the start, possess the gold fund of some 200,000,000 dollars and the currency fund amounting to from 1,700,000,000 to 1,800,000,000 dollars. As the Bank can make and guarantee loans to an amount not exceeding 200 per cent of the fund in its possession, it will be in a position to turn over to the maximum limit of some 4,000,000,000 dollars a year. If, as is asserted by some American authorities, the post-war reconstruction work requires a total fund of 2,000,000,000 to 3,000,000,000 dollars a year, the above-mentioned fund of the Bank may be considered to suffice for the purpose for a year or two.

ANGLO-AMERICAN ANTHEMS

Songs Reflect Character of British and American People

By NAOE MONMA

II

The American national anthem too is not far behind the English anthem in its basic emphasis on imperialistic monopolization of power. On reading how the anthem was inspired and composed one does not get the feeling of its imperialistic character. In 1814, during the "War of 1812" an American lawyer, Francis Scott Key, went alone on board an English war vessel to plea for the release of a friend who was a captive on board the vessel. As the British war vessel was to bombard an American fortress during the night, Key was detained. After spending an anxious night amid the roar of the bombardment he woke up early the next morning to find in the gradually brightening dawn the stars and stripes still fluttering in the morning breeze. Immediately he wrote down on an envelope his impression of the thrilling moment. It was the "Star-Spangled Banner."

Though written under such dramatic circumstances, the imperialistic state of mind is quite evident in the general concept of American nationalism. The music to which the words had been set was composed by an Englishman. To adopt as a national anthem, though a hundred years later, the melody composed by a foreigner who at any rate was an enemy subject when the "Star-Spangled Banner" was inspired, is a sort of thing capable only by Americans insensible to the right or wrong of grabbing things that belong to others.

To an American such a thing is made light of, even comes naturally with them; for, ever since its independence and confederacy, the United States had grown to power and influence by several strokes of imperialistic grabbing and aggression. It is even a part of the American spirit—the restless pioneer spirit which propels one to open up wilderness in search of more fertile land. To them, to live means to conquer and to expand.

Other Illustrations

Among the patriotic songs of both England and America may be seen the avaricious national trait, a thirst for more lands to conquer, more gold to accumulate. "The British Grenadiers" is a well known patriotic melody which praises the might and power of its army. But the irony of it is that the music is of foreign origin. It became popular toward the middle of the 18th century, though the words were written in the latter half of the 17th century. It, too, is an 18th century acquisition.

"The British Grenadiers" is the foremost song of the army, but for the navy there are several, all expressing a stronger spirit of imperialism. Perhaps the most valued among them is "Rule Britannia." It audaciously assumes that God ordained Britain to rule the Seven Seas of the world, and to reign supreme by overpowering all other nations. It was written and composed in the 18th century. It is said to have made its first debut in an opera in 1740. Seeing that it was popularly esteemed at this early period the English ambition for maritime supremacy is of long standing. As a matter of fact, by the 19th century the British were able to realize their 18th century maritime ambition. "Rule Britannia," in a century, had been changed to "Rules Britannia." An "S" was added. But at present, however, the "rule" has changed into the past tense "ruled."

"The British Grenadiers" and "Rule Britannia" became well known songs in nearly all parts of the world, especially in America and in Germany where they exerted considerable influence. In America, fifty years later, "Rule Britannia" became "Rule Columbia." In Germany, even Wagner, a patriotic German to the core included in his symphony a prologue based on "Rule Britannia." Beethoven too adopted it as his main theme for piano variation and for "war symphonies."

Britain's maritime ambition appeared in her music from olden times, those composed in the 16th century still remaining today. Though the early melodies were folk songs and not essentially partial to national songs, yet such songs as "Shanty, Chanty", a melody for the British mariners, express distinctly the British ambition. In this song there are expressions of the joy of labor and of the mariners' life, but not a few expressions are piratical in nature such as "rule the seas" or "Alabama too is ours." Britishers themselves admit this fact. Ransome, for instance, in his "Early British History" admits that the seafarers of the early period were buccaneering adventurers. Terry too, who made special study of this song endorsed this admission.

Influence on Japanese Music

American patriotic songs had not influenced world music as did the British melodies but Japan was greatly influenced by them. Present day Japanese between the ages of 40 and 50 remember such melodies as "Yankee Doodle", "Hail Columbia," "Battle Hymn of the Republic," "Marching Through Georgia," etc. These melodies were played by circus troupes, street bands, theater orchestras, and were sung with Japanese translations. As a result many Japanese were led to the belief that America is the center of music and culture, that it is the land of justice and freedom; many came to respect it, others feared it as a nation of great potential strength. Now we look back upon these reactions of our compatriots as ridiculous. The reason for it is that these melodies, upon closer and unbiased scrutiny, reveal them to be on the contrary a proof of their cultural and musical paucity. "Yankee Doodle" was first sung by the English to ridicule the ill-clad and undisciplined colonial troopers. "Hail Columbia" is an American verse written to be sung with a military march said to have been composed by a German during the Revolutionary War. The other three are products of the Civil War days (1861-1865). They are all songs of rebellion; moreover, their origin is quite American in character.

"John Brown" was written around a character by this name who was a violent anti-slavery agitator. The composer was not a northerner but a southerner in the heart of the slave territory. The words set to this tune and later known as the "Battle Hymn of the Republic" was written by a woman. "Marching Through Georgia" is even now tabooed by the southerners. When it was played at a musical recital in 1916 at a Democratic convention, the band master was said to have been nearly flogged to death by the angry mob. The song is about the victorious march of General Sherman across Georgia from Atlanta to the sea.

Popular Enemy Tunes

I don't know what military songs are being sung at present in England and America; but according to a newspaper report not long ago it was said that such melodies as "Kill the Japs" are being sung with earnestness. It is easy to presume that ditties such as "It's not a long way to Tokyo," or "Sightseeing in Nippon" are popularly sung even as "Over There," and "Tipperary," were popular during the First World War.

Considering themselves as superior races the Anglo-Americans on several occasions in history have persecuted and lynched other races whom they considered as their inferiors. This ruthless greed for mastery and possession, resulting in inhuman cruelty, is witnessed in the Negro spiritual songs.

The Negro spirituals, as is well known, are naive and homely religious hymns of the colored people in America. They are based on five-grade tune musical scale or their equivalents. They are simple and pure expressions of their heartfelt longings, full of Christian sentiments and belief. The Negro slaves, oppressed, tyrannized and crushed in spirit, having nowhere to turn to for assistance and comfort, have naturally turned their thoughts to God and there in heavenly mercy sought spiritual comfort and rest. A Japanese cannot listen to them without tears or genuine sympathy. An American, however, is indifferent to the circumstances that gave rise to such spirituals. The Americans sing them indifferently, compose variations based on the spirituals, use them in text books, and adopt them in musical art. Some even claim that the future of American music must further utilize the spirituals. How utterly irrational!

(To Be Concluded)

Too Efficient

Assistant: "No, Madam, we haven't had any for a long time."

Manager (overhearing): "Oh, yes, we have it, Madam. I will send out to the warehouse and have some brought in for you (whispering to assistant). Never refuse anything; send out for it."

As the lady went out, the manager asked angrily: "Just what was it she said to you?"

Assistant: "She said that we haven't had any rain lately."